



# *NEWS RELEASE*

## **WYOMING DISTRICT OFFICE**

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**Release Date:** April 21, 2005  
**Release Number:** 05-06

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### **YinSITE Project Named Home-Based Business Advocate of the Year**

**Laramie** – The Wyoming District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has named YinSITE Project Home-Based Business Advocate of the Year 2005. All state winners are forwarded on to compete at the Regional level (Colorado, No. Dakota, So. Dakota, Montana, Utah and WY). This year YinSITE Project was selected as the Regional Home-Based Business Advocate of the Year for Region VIII.

This award is presented to an individual/organization that has engaged in entrepreneurial training, policy development efforts, or financial or business planning specifically tailored for home-based businesses; has demonstrated interest in home-based business and has measurable accomplishments in advancing home-based businesses, such as adoption of public policy or expansion of a program.

The committee that conceptualized the project included: Diane Wolverton (Small Business Development Center), Rosemary Bratton (Women's Business Center), Debbie Popp (Small Business Development Center), Cindy Garretson-Weibel (Wyoming Business Council), and Marion Cotterman (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation) and Kim Vincent (Small Business Development Center). These six women have been meeting for approximately three years to develop this innovative concept and then co-wrote a proposal to the Department of Family Services for a TANF grant (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families). The Women's Business Center was the grantee and received a \$1.2 million dollar grant to implement this creative project to assist low-income families to start home-based businesses.

The mission of YinSITE (Sustained Income Through Entrepreneurship) is to foster entrepreneurship as a long term, sustainable income source for Wyoming residents currently in poverty.

The President of the United States recognizes contributions of the small business community to the American economy and society by proclamation each year.

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